



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2022: unlawful discharge of firearms; exception

PRIME SPONSOR: Representative Lawrence, LD 23

BILL STATUS: [House Engrossed](#)

JPS: DPA 6-3-0-0

Legend:

AZGFD – Arizona Game and Fish Department
Amendments – **BOLD** and ~~Stricken~~ (Committee)

Abstract

Relating to the unlawful discharge of a firearm.

Provisions

1. Adds an exemption to the unlawful discharge of firearms statute that makes it legal to discharge a firearm into or within city limits using rat shot or snake shot if the pellets are:
 - a) 1.3 millimeters or less in diameter;
 - b) Loaded into a rimfire cartridge with a caliber under or equal to 22/100ths of an inch (.22 caliber). (Sec. 1)

Current Law

[A.R.S. § 13-3101](#) defines a *firearm* as any loaded or unloaded handgun, pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun or other weapon that will expel, is designed to expel or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive. This definition does not include anything in permanently inoperable condition.

[A.R.S. § 13-3107](#) (commonly referred to as "Shannon's Law") makes it illegal to discharge a firearm within or into city limits. A violation is a Class 6 felony ([1 year/\\$150,000 plus surcharges](#)). The section includes several exceptions if the discharge of the firearm is:

- On a supervised shooting range;
- To lawfully take wildlife during an open season as outlined in [state law](#) and [AZGFD rules](#);
- In self-defense either from another person or against an animal attack;
- To control nuisance wildlife (with a permit from AZGFD);
- By permit from the police chief of the municipality;
- As required by an animal control officer;
- Using blanks;
- More than 1 mile from an occupied structure.

☐ Prop 105 (45 votes)

☐ Prop 108 (40 votes)

☐ Emergency (40 votes)

☐ Fiscal Note